## A Personal Appeal to the Head of our National Marine Fisheries Service

Eric Schwaab Assistant Administrator National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Schwaab:

This November, at the annual international meeting of Atlantic tuna fishing countries (ICCAT), where limits on shark fishing are also set, the world has the best chance yet to win more effective management measures for sharks, such as catch limits, fins naturally attached, and other scientifically based measures. Achieving these goals would be a vitally important step toward advancing shark conservation worldwide.

Historically, shark fisheries management has been neglected because of the perceived lack of public support for conserving shark populations. It is our intent, through this personal appeal and many others just like it, to demonstrate that the public perception of sharks is evolving. And it is our hope and expectation that those who represent the interests of the American public at meetings of international fisheries bodies, such as ICCAT, keep our interests, and those of sharks, in mind.

